

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

FAC NEWS

January 2010



www.fac-assoc.org

1849 Southlawn Drive
Fairborn, OH 45324

ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP:

Officers and Committee Chairmen:

President: Dennis Crouch 937-426-6246 Beaver creek, OH denniscrouch@earthlink.net
Vice Pres: Robert (C3B) Green, King George, VA, numbalcc@crosslink.net, 540-775-2830
Secretary: Joseph "Jay" Barnes, West Orange, NJ, 973-325-6208 barnesjay@juno.com
Treasurer: Bob Gorman, Newbury Park, CA, 805-376-9893 jake4404@hotmail.com
Director: Cal Anderson 252-437-0550 Whitakers, NC calvindolly@earthlink.net
Director: Tom McGrain 480-460-1969 Phoenix, AZ Nail28@cox.net
Director: Phil Litts, Elk Grove, CA, 209-329-6970, philliplitts@sbcglobal.net
FAC Historian: Rick Atchison 703-569-2418 Springfield, VA Ricka61@verizon.net
Legal Advisor: J. D. Caven, Sunrise Beach, MO, 573-374-8275, jcaven002@charter.net
Website: Bob Gorman, 805-376-9893, Newbury Park, CA, jake4404@hotmail.com
Newsletter: Tim Eby 254-796-4850 Hico, TX teby540@embarqmail.com
FAC Search: Jon Alexaitis 817-581-8381 Bedford TX jalexaitis@sbcglobal.net
Membership Database: Fred Pumroy 937-878-7257 fmapumroy@aol.com
Chaplain: Howie Pierson 415-893-1862 Novato, CA howie.p@comcast.net
Mission: Jay Barnes 973-325-6208 West Orange, NJ barnesjay@juno.com
FAC Book Project: Al Matheson 435-586-9762 Cedar City, UT citabriair@yahoo.com
Reunion Advisory: Zot Barazzotto, Beaver creek, OH, 937-429-2119, zot250@ameritech.net
Reunion Advisory: Claude Newland 850-654-2955 Destin, FL rustic19@cox.net
Reunion Advisory: Cal Anderson, Whitakers, NC, 252-437-0550, calvindolly@earthlink.net
FAC Memorial: Don Echelberger, Mary Esther, FL echelberg@aol.com



Dennis Crouch

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dennis Crouch FAC Association Pres.
NAIL 23 NKP 70-71 & 504 TASG 71

As I write this letter, it's approaching Christmas. The brisk and cold weather is upon us in many parts of the country. This is a time of the year when we remember our friends and family through Christmas cards, greet-

ings on the internet, phone calls and visits. It's also time that we continue to remember all of our military that serve in Iraq, Afghanistan or other far away places. They're doing what they always do, protecting us and fighting for our freedoms. Just as a LCDR Jeff Giles, USN, said, "...My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam', and now it is my turn and so, here I am." God Bless our serviceman as they continue to carry the torch and give to us, sometimes in payment with their lives.

As you know, our next FAC Association reunion will be in Fort Worth Texas. The dates have been cast in stone now and the reunion will take place from Wednesday, 27 October 2010 until Sunday, 31 October. The timing was made to coincide with the Fort Worth Alliance Air Show. The Fort Worth Alliance Air Show is 30/31 October and includes the Blue Angels. **Terry Tabor**, Nail 83, heads up the Reunion Committee which includes, among others, **Tom Kemp**, Nail 14, **Jack Thompson**, Rustic 11 and "**Doc**" **Lambert**, Nail 66. Our Fort Worth FACs are busy working the reunion now and more information is included in this newsletter. Other details are still being worked.. Fort Worth is a great community and aviation is a big part of the area. Many of you know that the FAC Museum and Veterans Memorial Air Park are owned and operated by the OV-10 Bronco Association. They are all located at Meacham Field. I know the Fort Worth folks are putting together a great reunion so mark your calendars now, put those \$\$ aside and plan for a wonderful time.

The Scholarship committee, composed of **J.D. Caven**, **Tom McGrain**, and **Phil Litts**, was established after the last membership meeting in Colorado Springs to examine the best way to establish a FAC Association Scholarship. They have completed their work. Several approaches were examined to include a self administered scholarship, a Military Officers Association of America scholarship, Daedalian scholarship, Special Ops Warrior Foundation and other options. Your board met and we decided for numerous reasons that the MOAA Scholarship avenue was the best approach for our association. I've included an article later in this newsletter to discuss it in greater detail. I am excited about this approach as it provides legacy to our FACs and a scholarship in perpetuity to deserving children of our military members!! Thanks to the committee, the board, and to the membership for your support.

Our historian, **Rick Atchison**, is working with the Texas Tech University and with **Al Matheson**, our archivist. All the data currently in the possession of Al Matheson that is non-copyrighted will be transferred to the Vietnam Archives of the Texas Tech University (TTU). Members have received much of the data on Three Historical Data CDs (Disc 1 FAC TASS, Disc 2, FAC Systems and Disc 3 FAC General). Data on these CDs is in addition to the FAC (*continued, page 6*) (



Membership, Dues, and the Newsletter

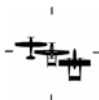
Bob Gorman

In the beginning.....Over 700 FACs and their family members and friends gathered in Ft Walton Beach, FL for the 'Mother of All FAC Reunions' in Sep 2000. The inaugural *issue* of the FAC Association newsletter was mailed to 1900+ FACs who were then in the FAC Database. Since that initial distribution the FAC Database has grown to a whopping 5617, all of whom receive this Newsletter twice a year, whether they were members or not. In 2009 the Association spent approximately \$3800 to produce and distribute the Newsletter. Your Board of Directors has now established a new policy. In fairness, the newsletter will be sent only to those that are FAC Association Lifetime and Annual paid up members. This policy is very similar to other associations and organizations that eliminate non-paying members soon after delinquency. Renewing membership shows member interest and eliminating non dues paying individuals reduces cost to the association.

This will be the last issue of the newsletter that will be distributed to everyone in the database regardless of membership status. Those of you who are life members are leading the formation and won't run out of fuel. The 3200+ non members will have to join the formation. The 622 delinquent annual dues paying members will have to add some power to hold their place in line. To give you a little extra time to ponder your decision the Association BOD has further agreed (for 2010 only) to extend the annual dues payment date from NLT the end of February to the end of May 2010. After that, those who have not joined the formation will be dropped from the Newsletter distribution roster.

If you are reading this article in the paper version of the newsletter, please turn to the back page where you will be able to see your current dues status as of this printing. If you are current with your dues it should read **09 Pd Jan 09** (meaning that you paid your '09 dues in January of 09). If it reads anything else, for example **01 Pd March 01** you will need to take some action and become current in your membership by filling out the form on page 8 and mailing your dues to the address indicated.

Please don't hesitate, update your membership now and avoid being removed from the mailing list. **We want all to become current members of the FAC Association.** Take action today.



TREASURER'S REPORT



Bob Gorman
1 December 2009

As of close of business 30Nov 2009 our financial status was as follows:

Checking :	\$4708
Money Market :	\$46176
Investment CDs :	\$96976
Total in the Bank:	\$147860

Our future liabilities include:

Life Membership:	(\$74978)
Designated Scholarship:	(\$20000)
"Honored Family Support:	(\$5800)

The 2010 spend plan that has been approved by your Board of Directors has the following provisions:

Mandatory Expenses

Newsletter	\$3800
President	\$500
Historian	\$300
CPA Support	\$600
Admin/Postage	\$200
Non Profit Annual Rpt	\$72

Discretionary Expenses

Archive Support	\$300
Fallen Brothers	\$400
FACM Support	\$2000
FAC Association Designated Scholarship Program	\$5000
Management Reserve	\$2037

The Association has made it's first contribution toward the "FAC Association Designated Scholarship Program" in the form of a check that I sent out on the 8th of Dec. 2009. My personal thanks to the "Jakes" and to Nail 01 who sent in a couple of donations to this worthy cause. I will be sending out another installment in January of next year. When we meet in Fort Worth for our next reunion I will have put together our spend plan for the years of 2011 and 2012 that will include additional funding for this program.

You'll notice that we have set aside nearly \$6000 in future support of our "Honored Families". These are residual \$ from the donations made to support the COS memorial. The exact definition of "support" is still up in the air and may be a topic of discussion at our next reunion.

Be sure to check your membership status shown on page 8 of this newsletter.

Happy Holidays.

Bob, Jake 44

IN MEMORIAM


“To fly west, my friend, is a flight we all must take for a final check.” — *Author unknown*

John Holmberg	Feb 09
Leslie E. Knapp	27Sep 08
George “Pete” Irwin, Jr.	28June 09
Raymond Waski	27May 09
Robert L. Johnston	14Nov 07
George I. Wilkins	02July 07
John Runyon	Dec 1989
Harry L. Brewer	2005
Ralph M. Flinn	2July 09
Herbert Neathery	12Dec 08
James G. Wyatt	28Apr 09
Jerry Stephan	20Nov 09
Francis Patrick Farrell	02Nov 09
Scott “Scotty” Jewkes	08Nov 09



"Nail 57" Jerry Stephan

Several years ago Darrel Whitcomb gave us all a gentle reminder about the perils of trusting time. I believe his words were: ***"I'd been a better friend, but I trusted time"***. I can't quite explain why those profound words stayed with me, but obviously they did and I have been the beneficiary of such wisdom since. This evening I received word about another of our Gallant FACs making his final flight west, my friend, Jerry Stephan. No, I did not serve with Jerry in 23 TASS, but he was a FAC and that title alone gains instant respect from this Crew Chief. Over the years Jerry and I had become good friends. We shared a lot of good times together and always looked forward to "hooking up" at the Reunions, BroncoFest, and the last time during the Nail Round Up in Ft. Worth. Jerry always portrayed his mendacious traits, but in a good natured way. When I last spoke with Jerry he talked about his cancer and his treatments. Unpleasant as things were for him, Jerry never complained to me about his pain. Admittedly we both knew his final flight was FRAGGED, but I believe Jerry accepted this and yet he still pressed on. Jerry was a fighter and the epitome of a true FAC and Aviator. I will surely miss him. Hand Salute to a gallant warrior on his final flight west. Nail 57, we are all in trail - Out! Regards, Crew Chief Bob

Your humble editor is troubled that we are losing so many of our intrepid friends, and we do not have room to memorialize every one of them. My hope is that those featured symbolize all the rest. Each one is precious to us all, and no slight is desired or intended in who is -  - featured and who is not.

FAC ALERT

Our ranks will only thin. Each call sign, unit, tour date and unique mission have bonded individuals in their chosen ways. And each FAC, “Bravo” and family members take medical “hits.” How they deal with it, and how much disclosure they choose must be honored and related to others with discretion and compassion.

If you have need for encouragement, support, a call, prayer and love let us know. The FAC family is tight and forever.

Cleared Hot on checking in!

(note Howie’s contact info on cover page. ed.)

Howie Pierson, Nail 01

FAC Association Chaplain

WHAT’S IN A LETTER

(F-A-C)

Our phonetic “F” was “Fox” and is now “Foxtrot.” The acronym FAC has become a common military, combat and aviation identifier. The FAC has many essential traits—the “F” in FAC leads the acronym, a measure that carries the trait of Faith. We had and have faith in ourselves, and our comrades in arms; knowing that they were and will always be there when needed, whether in combat or the remainder of life. Our faith will always remember the sacrifices of those that gave their all.

The phonetic “A” was “Able” for years and is now “Alpha.” For the FAC, Audacity follows Faith. Our many marble monuments testify to the Audacity of the FAC. Each name came up through the requirement to seek, find, and face the enemy. His Faith and Audacity combined to complete the mission. The words Authentic, Adventurous, Aggressive may fit a FAC also- but he was and will always be a warrior of Faith and Audacity.

Finally, the phonetic for “C” was originally “Cast” and has been “Charlie” since WWII. To the FAC, “C” is Courage and is a must for the FAC world of low and slow (or fast Misty), with intense enemy AAA, demanding weather conditions, and remote, Spartan living conditions with the brave “Grunts.”

So, wear your FAC patch of unique aviation credentials with humble and righteous pride – you are FAITH, AUDACITY and COURAGE – And the words below were and are yours alone.....

FAC’s in to mark!

Hit my smoke!

You’re Cleared Hot!!

Howie Pierson, Nail 01 & Denny Crouch, Nail 23

FAC Association Chaplain & President

CLEARED HOT—BOOK II

Peter Condon (Tamale 15, Sidewinder) is in the final stages of proofing and editing of the second volume of the FAC History Book. He expects it to be available to buy online sometime in early 2010. The soft cover, 572 page book must be ordered online. All of the FAC stories in the original FAC History Book CD that did not get published in Book I are included in this second volume, along with some new material, as well. Book II will definitely be another MUST READ for all FACs, so plan to get a copy for your personal library. The cost will be approximately \$25. Be the first owner on your block!

Warm kudos to Peter, who has poured his heart and soul into this huge project. For an Aussie, he’s a mighty fine fellow! Thanks, Peter, from all of us.



**FAC REUNION 2010
Fort Worth, TX
October 27-31, 2010**



**Y'ALL COME, YA HEAH?
www.fac-association.org
Watch this website**

The date of the FAC Reunion is now set. announced Alliance Air Show – October class reunion around a world-class air

Worth Alliance Airport that draws thousands of visitors. Next year the headline performers will be the US Navy Blue Angels and the US Army Golden Knights. Hundreds of aircraft will be on display and the day will be filled with acrobatic aviation demonstrations from around the world. For more information, go to the website at www.allianceairshow.com.

The reunion committee has been researching hotels and exciting optional activities for your enjoyment during the reunion week. We have selected the Omni Hotel in downtown Fort Worth as reunion headquarters. It is a brand new landmark building with exceptional amenities and is conveniently located in the heart of downtown near restaurants and nightlife. For more information, visit their website at www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/FortWorth.aspx. We have arranged for an incredible room rate, but reservations at the hotel will not be available for another month or two – DO NOT CALL THE HOTEL. We will let you know when the reunion registration is available through the FACNET and the FAC Association website (see above). We'll also publish complete registration information in the July 2010 newsletter.

There is so much to see and do in the Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) area that we are having a difficult time fitting everything into the agenda! Our primary activity will be the Alliance Air Show, an all day event on Saturday, Oct 30th. That changes the "flow" of some of the past reunions in that the Banquet will be on Friday night. We have a Mexican Fiesta planned for Thursday night at the world famous Joe T Garcia's restaurant in the Stockyards area. We are planning tours of the Lockheed Martin plant (F-35 production line), a golf tournament, tours of the Cultural District, the newly renovated (\$135M) Museum of Science and History (www.fwmuseum.org), Stockyards, and a large number of aviation museums to work into the schedule. The Lockheed tour is limited to 150 people, so if demand is great enough, that might be a two day event!

Then there is the "business" side of this operation with the FAC Association general membership meeting. You will also want to visit the FAC Museum and the Veteran's Memorial Air Park to sit in your trusty steed of long ago. We will have time to tell you a little about where we've been and show you the progress of "YOUR" museum! And of course we're already getting pressure to leave time for call sign/squadron meetings and dinners. So when will you have time to wander around Sundance Square (near the hotel) to enjoy the hundreds of taverns, restaurants, and stores? Check out Molly the Trolley's website (www.mollythetrolley.com) to get the layout of the downtown area.

In lieu of a memorial dedication, on Sunday morning we will have a Service of Remembrance for our fallen comrades as we have done at previous reunions. Also, we will be inviting the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice to join us for this reunion.

Again, we will let you know as soon as possible about the registration website and hotel reservations, or watch for the next issue of this newsletter (they have PLENTY of rooms!). We expect to have the website available by the end of January, so pay off those Christmas bills and get ready for the best reunion ever!

Terry Tabor, Reunion committee chairman



The FAC Association Scholarship

At the last Membership Meeting in Colorado Springs, October 2008, we approved the budget which included \$5,000 in FY2009 for a program that would be later approved by the BOD to provide a scholarship in the name of the FAC Association. Since that time we have had a committee working to determine how best to implement a FAC Scholarship that would further provide a legacy to the FACs of our era. In addition, it will ensure that a worthy young person can take advantage of the opportunity to further his/her educational dreams.

Your FAC Association is very happy to announce that your Board of Directors has approved a Designated Scholarship that will be awarded beginning in 2010. The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) will administer the program for the FAC Association. Not one dollar for the administrative effort is charged to the FAC Association as MOAA has a special BOD for this purpose and it's funded with dollars from outside the Designated Scholarship program. Our scholarship will provide an annual minimum of \$5,500 composed of a \$5,000 no interest loan and a \$500 grant. Our investment of \$5,000 per year through FY2013 is a total of \$25,000. This provides an annual scholarship in perpetuity to deserving children of commissioned or warrant officers and enlisted members on active duty or retired! We have asked that selection preference be given to Air Force members. Also, I want to emphasize that the \$5,500 scholarship is a minimum amount and is likely to increase over time. The scholarship board will determine the exact amount based on several factors, including a percentage of 25% to 33% of the 4 year public school cost based on trends in college education. For the year 2010, the value of the scholarship is \$5,500.

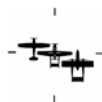
This approach ensures the "FAC Association Scholarship" lives forever, long after we reach the "last man standing" point in the FAC Association, since MOAA is and will be an ongoing organization. It also ensures a standing committee to approve scholarships and avoids the administrative burden with which many of us were concerned. Evaluation of applicants includes academic achievement, financial need, outside activities, and other factors. The student must maintain a 3.0 grade level, remain in good standing and be a full time student.

We will be talking more about this scholarship at the next reunion and I would like to give consideration to a second scholarship. This will be a topic of separate discussion. Again, I'm very happy with our approach and I want to thank the committee, composed of J.D. Caven, Tom McGrain and Phil Litts for their work and to Bob Gorman and the entire board. Also, I want to thank the members for your support or this would not be possible. Thanks to all.

Denny Crouch,
Your Prez

DID YOU KNOW LTCOL FRANCIS (BUD) FARRELL? SIDEWINDER 01 1968-69, LAI KHE, BIEN HOA

Bud's son, Col Mike (Irish) Farrell, OK ANG 138 FW, would like to talk to anyone who knew his father, especially his backseater on his DFC mission 21 Oct 1968. He was probably the ALO at Lai Khe, or any of the other locations of the Sidewinder/1st Infantry Division's locations. If you knew LtCol Farrell and would be willing to speak with his son, please contact Denny Crouch via his numbers on the cover page, for Col Farrell's contact numbers. Like father, like son, Irish is a fighter pilot and veteran of many tours to Iraq. Call him and swap some lies! Thanks. As noted on page 3, Bud Farrell passed away 2 Nov 09.



The Jake FAC Reunion

The "Jake" FACs had a wondrous time; and party they did!! The Jakes, led by Jay Barnes, Jake 26, had their 4th Reunion at Buena Park, CA from 26 Sep to 1 Oct 09. Jay invited the FAC Association BOD to have their face-to-face Board meeting in conjunction with the reunion. We accepted that invitation and what a great idea it was! We had a very beneficial BOD meeting and although many had to depart soon after, I was able to stay for much of the festivities, but did miss the final banquet, the Luau, which I'll forever regret.

The normal stories and fellowship permeated the gatherings at the Hootch each evening after a full day's activities. The Jakes had a dinner at the "Proud Bird" restaurant near LA, a great restaurant, but also a museum in itself with aviation pictures from WWI to the current time. Many planes, from WWII forward, adorned the area around the restaurant. Entertainment included the Santa Monica Oceanaires. A great time for all.

So many other activities as well. We played golf using 'Jake Rules' (don't try it yourself, you can get hurt), visited the unique March Field museum which included an Oscar Deuce as well as one of only two A-9 prototype aircraft, an aircraft that lost out to the A-10. We all had a great time at the San Diego Air & Space Museum and received a personalized tour of their restoration facility. They're even building from scratch a Boeing P-26 Peashooter of the 1930s. To build the P-26, they only have a set of incomplete and somewhat inaccurate microfiche prints. It'll be a beaut!!

At the Luau banquet, Tim Ayres, Jake 19 and later flying as an F-4 "Fast" FAC when shot down in May 1972 and returned with the other POWs on 28 March 1973, shared his experiences as a POW. He also "debunked" some of the Jane Fonda rumors still circulating on the web. In addition, you may recall the movie "Big Jake" starring John Wayne. Well, Jay asked Ethan Wayne, John Wayne's youngest son and a leader in the John Wayne Cancer Foundation, to attend the Luau. Jay is a cancer survivor and thus the connection. What initially interested Ethan was the name Jake, as Ethan and Patrick Wayne starred in the "Big Jake" movie with their Dad. One thing led to another and Ethan attended the Luau as the guest of the Jake FACs. Jay said Ethan was a delightful guest and personally greeted every person at the Luau before sitting down. An aviator, he spoke to the Jakes about his love of aviation. Darrel Whitcomb had graciously provided a signed copy of his book, "The Rescue of Bat 21," which was presented to Ethan.

The Jake reunion was a wonderful experience. One thing is always constant among the FACs; we are brothers. I knew some of the Jakes and met many more as well as having the opportunity to renew my acquaintance with Tim from the Australian reunion. The Jake FACs made the great "Duke", Ethan, and yours truly, honorary members of the Jake FACs. I was pleased to accept this and am humbled by this honor. It doesn't amaze me anymore but anytime I get with my warrior brothers it's as though we are true blood brothers. We are of the same fraternity and we have a bond that can never be broken. Jay and all Jake FACs, thanks for letting us be part of your reunion.
Denny Crouch, Honorary Jake 82



Rustic Shenanigans

Those Rustics—they know how to party! The rumor is that their latest reunion, 10-13 SEP 09 in Washington, D.C. was another smashing success. Of course, there is nothing to do or see at that location, so they made up for it by telling lies, visiting, and partying some more. They even copped a very rare private tour of the Homeland Security Operations Center. They saw a super high tech command post on steroids. A pretty awesome place. A highlight was a special memorial service for the fallen Rustics near the Vietnam Memorial Wall. Special guest was LtCol Kohn Om, Cambodian fighter pilot and Rustic interpreter. Goodonya, Rustics. You set a high standard for the other TASS organizations to aspire to.

Rustic Don Mercer has successfully published a book entitled “Lights Out—Destination Darkness, America’s Unknown War: Cambodia”. He promises a second volume to continue his story. You will want to add this book to your library.

Boeing Pitches OV-10X Bronco For USAF Light Attack

Unabashedly lifted from the Rustic Newsletter. Thanks, Claude.

Boeing confirms that it has proposed building new OV-10s with upgraded avionics and weapons for the USAF light attack contract. This concept is surely embraced by the Bronco’s devoted following who remember her notably effective service in the Southeast Asia war. The OV-10 could face competition from other Vietnam-era light attack aircraft, such as the Piper PA-48 Enforcer, as well as a new class of turbo-prop fighter-trainers such as the AT-6 and the Embraer Super Tucano. Alenia also plans to offer the jet-powered M346 trainer. Boeing inherited the OV-10’s design rights from its purchase in the 1980s of North American Rockwell, the aircraft’s original manufacturer.



(Source: Flight global.com)

It might look something like this...

Or this...

AF T-6 at Cowtown Warbird Roundup, 2008, Ft. Worth, TX, put on by the Veteran’s Memorial Air Park/OV-10 Bronco Association



Late intel report: FACNET intel from a recent military publication indicates that the OV-10X is an unlikely candidate. Which means, in the bureaucracy’s twisted logic, that it is very likely to be the final pick. Dig out your Dash 1, we may get another go at it! (How long has it been since you pulled more than one g?)

(President’s Corner cont. from page 1)

stories contained in the FAC History Book CD and the Cleared Hot Book I. Archiving all the data at TTU ensures that the history we lived will remain long after we are gone, and provides a location where you or the next generation can have access to the data and do research. We are fortunate to be able to place our data at TTU as they have a strong Vietnam Archive section that will be there for everyone in the future. Later, we may file copies of our copyrighted FAC History Book CD and Cleared Hot Books.

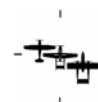
Peter Condon, with the help of many of the TASS members has nearly completed the table top “Cleared Hot Two” book that is expected to be available in the early spring. This second edition includes all the stories from the FAC History Book CD not contained in Cleared Hot One as well as some later entries. Although Peter has done the bulk of the work, many others have contributed including **Charlie Pcock, Mike Morea, Tim Eby, Ned Helm, Jim Gabel and Al Matheson**. Thanks to everyone for your efforts. Copies of Cleared Hot One can still be ordered through www.lulu.com/content/2813093. Cleared Hot Two will also be on lulu.com when available.

We continue to receive inquiries for purchasing memorabilia. In the last Newsletter I stated that **Ned “Crash” Helm** was working to sell military and FAC Memorabilia through his sportsman website. The response has been very good. He has now established a new website at www.theyankeeairpirate.com and has increased the number of items for sale. If you have any items you would like to sell, Ned’s contact info is on his site. He is continuing to expand his offering and now includes items from the FAC Museum, OV-10 Bronco Assoc., FAC Ass’n, and other organizations. Thanks Ned for creating this website and we wish you success. You can contact Ned at 800-356-4953 or at ned@wingset.com.

Regarding the original memorabilia that we all have, each of us needs to think what we’d like to have done with it after our passing. Maybe you want to place it in your will or perhaps you’d like to donate it in the near future. We’re fortunate to have the FAC Museum at Fort Worth and the National Museum of the United States Air Force (NMUSAF) at Wright-Patterson AFB. Both can accept your donations. It’s your choice and each location serves an invaluable purpose. If you don’t say what you want done with it, it’ll probably end up in the trash or on E-Bay. You can contact the **FAC Museum, Terry Tabor**, phone 817-428-2228 or e-mail at nail83@verizon.net. The **NMUSAF Curator, Terry Aitken**, can be reached by phone at 937-255-1292 or e-mail at terril.aitken@us.af.mil. Each is interested in both official and unofficial memorabilia. The NMUSAF has facilities to environmentally protect items needing such protection.

Many changes are occurring in our country right now. It behooves us all to stay abreast of the changes and speak out, whether in support of or against these changes. It’s important that we all let our representatives know how we feel. It’s our right and our responsibility. God Bless all of you and God Bless America.

Happy New Year,
Denny Crouch



Walter Ray Parks

Sgt. Walter Ray Parks, a former O-1 and O-2 crew chief with the 20th Tactical Air Support Squadron, passed away on December 1, 2006 in his hometown of Asheboro, North Carolina.

Ray joined the Air Force on September 16, 1965 at Charlotte, NC. He was assigned to the 20th TASS in 1967. He was initially stationed at Danang, and in August 1967, Ray was assigned PCS to the Hue detachment and remained in Hue for the rest of his Vietnam tour. He was released from active duty in January, 1969. Ray was a skilled mechanic, and well-liked by all who knew him in the 20th TASS. His awards and decorations include the Air Force Commendation Medal, and several others. (Thanks to David Sciacchitano for this input)



KEEPING THE PROMISE: LTCOL JERRY CHAMBERS

Today, 23Sep09, our country kept her promise. LtCol Jerry L. Chambers, Nail 115, was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors after being MIA for 41 years. Attending and representing the FACs were Sam Weaver, Nail 45, Dave McKay, Covey 536, Mike Connors, Jake 24, Rick Atcheson, Nail 229, Jonathan Myer, Baron 82, and CC Bob Green. After the service in the Old Post Chapel at Ft. Myer, the caisson and the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard led the procession to the burial site. A C-130 flyover (LtCol Chambers was lost on a "Blindbat" C-130 mission), a message from the chaplain, the 21-gun salute, the folding of the flag and presentation to his daughter, Sheri, followed. I then had the opportunity to present her with a copy of Dale Hill's "FAC Tribute". She was very grateful and asked that I convey her appreciation to you for our support.

Slow hand salute to a gallant warrior. Col, please save us a seat in the FAC hootch. We're all in trail. Crew Chief Bob Green.

Nickel on the grass. L) Rick Atcheson, R) Jonathan Myer



FOR YOUR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

Buddy Sims, P.O. Box 31, Edwards, CO 81632-0031
Or phone @ 970-445-7573 or e-mail bsims@vail.net

Edwards, CO – The Freedom Park Memorial Committee, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit, will be completing the Pentagon Limestone Plaza in May 2010 which is across from the Flag Pole Plaza Memorial for Veterans and EMS. Buddy Sims, a member of the Forward Air Controllers (FAC) Association, and combat veteran from Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan would like to make the new Pentagon Limestone Plaza floor out of granite pavers that remember individually the FACs Killed in Action in Vietnam. The Pentagon Limestone is an original 700lb piece blown off the Pentagon where the American Airlines Flight 77 crashed on 9/11. Each 8"X8" remembrance paver can be purchased for \$60. Contact Buddy for further information. *This is an individual project of the Freedom Memorial Park. Buddy Sims is a mover and shaker for this project. Edwards CO is about 110 miles west of Denver.*

Looking for information on Joseph B. Fearnor

Crew Chief Bob is still on the job, trying to find anyone who knew Captain Fearnor, lost 21Mar 1966. His daughter, Karen, desires to know more about her father. A crew chief named Edwin Clements was aboard the O-1E and survived with injuries. He met and married an Australian nurse during recuperation. It is thought that he still lives in Bluewater, Queensland 4818, Australia. Anyone with knowledge is asked to contact Crew Chief Bob. See his contact info on page one.



On a lighter note...

A Final Extension The sales department remains open!



Walter Want has continued to receive orders for prints of Andy Whyte's O-2A painting, commissioned by Toby Rushforth. Walt has agreed to keep the store open through July 2010 so get your orders in soon as it's doubtful that another extension is possible. The original is on display at the NMUSAF at Wright-Patterson AFB. Print sizes range from 8x10 to 16x20, framed or unframed, with or without pilot wings and medals. Prices range from \$12 to \$340 plus S&H.

Send Walt your address and he will send the order form via US Mail or go to the FAC website, Reunions, 2009 Colorado Springs, and click on the painting for an order form download. Walt's address is P.O. Box 1029, Newburg, OR 97132-8029 OR nail21www@aol.com.

Please mail in your dues to Treasurer Bob Gorman today. Use the form on page 8 of this issue of the FAC Newsletter.

FAC Association

1849 Southlawn Drive
Fairborn, OH 45324

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE FAC ASSOCIATION

Annual dues are \$20

Life membership dues depend on your age

55yrs and under—\$225

56 to 60 yrs — \$200

61 to 65 yrs —\$175

66yrs + —\$150

Copy this page, fill in the table below, and
send your check to:

Bob Gorman
3416 Broken Hill St.
Newbury Park, CA 91320-5501

FAC Association Membership and Annual Dues Form

Enclosed is my check for \$——- Make me a member of/continue my membership in the FAC Association

First Name + MI	Last Name	DOB (dd/mm/yyyy)	Spouses Name
Mailing Address	City	State	ZIP + 4
Telephone ()	Email Address	Call Sign	A/C or Specialty
Organization/Sqdn/TASS	FAC Tour Dates	Locations	Comments
Signature			